



**CITY OF LODI  
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

**AGENDA TITLE:** Accept Memorial Bench and Plaque Donation from Lisa and Pett Saiprasert In Honor of Mr. Chad Ehrhart

**MEETING DATE:** August 19, 2009

**PREPARED BY:** Steve Dutra, Park Superintendent

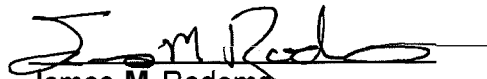
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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Accept a memorial bench and plaque project from Lisa and Pett Saiprasert in honor of Mr. Chad Ehrhart

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** On May 11, 2009, staff received a written request (attached) from Mrs. Lisa Saiprasert requesting a memorial tree and plaque be placed in the Ron Williamson Youth Area at Lodi Lake Park in honor of her son Chad Ehrhart. Staff met with Mrs. Saiprasert to discuss project location, project costs and policy protocol. On August 4, 2009, the Recreation Commission voted unanimously to support this request.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Mr. and Mrs. Saiprasert agree to provide all necessary funding for this request.

**FUNDING AVAILABLE:** N/A

  
James M. Rodems  
Interim Parks and Recreation Director

JMR\SD:tl

Attachment

cc: City Attorney

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APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Blair King, City Manager

Lodi Parks & Recreation Dept.

Attn: Steve Dutra

May 11, 2009

Dear Steve,

On August 24, 2008, our son (Chad Ehrhart) was struck and killed instantly by a train while attempting to cross the tracks downtown near Locust Street.

He was 20-years-old.

We may never fully know what happened that night, but I can tell you, our beautiful son will be missed by many people who were privileged to know and love him. Mostly by his two sisters, the youngest being only eight, who thought the world of their brother.

Chad loved Lodi Lake.

It was a significant part of his life and a place he would seek often just to sit and think. He felt a deep connection there and hope to

be granted permission to memorialize his name on a bench or by planting a tree as we try to honor his everlasting love for this park in death as he did in life.

There is no greater loss or devastation as when you lose a child so suddenly, so brutally, so tragically. The healing is slow and painful. I write to you on behalf of his two sisters, his dad, his fiance who he will never marry, his many friends, but also, for myself. I want this, need this, just as much as everyone else. To have a place to sit, to feel connected, would mean so much to so many.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lisa Sais

Lisa E Pett Saisprasert

209-712-4312

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